



WEEKLY NON-ARTISAN PAPER
FOR THE HOME, FARM,
SCHOOL, FACTORY AND
FIRESIDE.

RALEIGH, N. C.

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Tuesday.....Dec. 19, 1911

Weekly Tonic

(George Eliot)

There is no sort of wrong deeds
which a man can bear the punishment
alone. You can not isolate yourself
and say that the evil that is in you
shall not spread. Men's lives are as
thoroughly blended with each other
as the air they breathe. Evil spreads
as necessarily as disease.

UNCLE WALT

He always did his Christmas shop-
ping before the final rush began, and
clerks, from weariness
THE EARLY near dropping, would
SHOPPER pause to bless that
saintly man. Not
beautiful nor largely gifted, he moved
his humble sphere along, and inspira-
tion never lifted him to the shining
peaks of song. A common man, be-
whiskered, burly, foredoomed, it seem-
ed, to be obscure, he did his Christ-
mas shopping early, and so his fame
will age endure. And there were
thinkers, statesmen, fighters, the
leaders of some noble cause, bards,
orators and able writers who failed to
gain the world's applause; they found
Dame Fortune grim and sure, no
heights of fame could they attain;
they did not do their shopping early,
so all their efforts were in vain. And
useless is your boastful yawping, for
folks will say you are a skate unless
you do your Christmas shopping be-
fore it is too all-fired late!

WALT MASON. The Poet Philosopher

We have heard much about the
high cost of living, but now comes
the Woman's Home Companion telling
us of "the high cost of dying." It
wants a crusade against prices charg-
ed by undertakers, liverymen and all
others who put up prices. If the cost
of dying continues to go up folks will
have to quit it on the score of econ-
omy.

North Carolina could get rich on
apples if its people would plant more
orchards. The Lenoir News states
that Mr. J. F. Coffey, of Watauga
County, has taken to market this fall
1,150 bushels of apples and has 500
more to haul. The apples bring \$1
per bushel.

The Anti-Saloon League struck the
worst snag yet when it undertook to
prize the Secretary of Agriculture out
of his job. He seems to think life
tenure of office has returned without
any recall.

It is pretty near hog-killing time
and then all North Carolina will be
as happy as Chatham in rabbit season.

TECHNICAL TOMFOOLERY.

Every day there is a fresh proof
of the statement made by President
Charles W. Tillet that there is need
of reform in judicial procedure in
North Carolina. We cling too much
to old technicalities which often de-
feat justice. They ought to be
brushed away and laws and procedure
modernized. The latest example of
technical tomfoolery happened in
Moore county last week when the
case of John Goines for the killing
of W. H. Lowery was called in the
Superior Court. Here is what hap-
pened, as told by the Moore County
News:

"When Goines was brought in and
the jury was about to be selected H.
F. Seawell, of counsel for the defense,
arose and pleaded in abatement that
the bill of indictment be quashed for
that C. C. Hunsucker, a member of
the grand jury which returned the
bill at the August, 1911, term of
Moore Superior Court, had at the time
a civil action then and therein pend-
ing at issue and triable. After hear-
ing a statement of the facts and the
remarks of the attorneys for the de-
fendant and the State, his Honor,
Judge C. M. Cooke, ordered the entry
made: 'Motion to quash bill of in-
dictment. Motion allowed.' This of
course, ended the case for the time
being.

"This does not mean the case is
disposed of. It simply means that
the bill of indictment, for the reason
given, is void under the law. When
the next term of criminal court con-
venes in February, 1912, another bill
will be drawn and the case proceeded
with as if this motion had never been
made. It is only a postponement and
does not in any way affect the
strength of the prosecution, and in
no way weakens the hand of the de-
fense. The delay will be patiently
borne by the public."

We are not criticizing the presiding
judge, for he must follow the law and
the opinions of the Supreme Court.
We are not criticizing the attorney
who naturally, in the interest of his
client, was trying to secure all the
time he could get. We think the
News is wrong in saying "the delay
will be patiently borne by the public."
The public is getting very tired of
such delays. The fact that Mr. Hun-
sucker, who had a civil suit pending,
having no earthly relation with the
Goines' trial was one of eighteen mem-
bers of the grand jury that found a
true bill, ought not to quash a bill
of indictment and delay justice.
There is need of overhauling our
criminal law and criminal practice
and abolishing such absurd rulings
as the one invoked in Moore county.
The barons at Runnymede would
never have countenanced such a pre-
text to "delay justice."

HEAD BETTER THAN HEELS.

It is more important to educate
the heads of college boys than to edu-
cate their heels, though the public
unwisely gives greater honor to the
man who wins a football game than
to the man who wins in a debate. In
the debate on Friday night between
picked speakers from the University
of Pennsylvania and the University
of North Carolina, the victory was
with North Carolina. That is a very
good salve after the loss of the
Thanksgiving game by the Carolina
boys.

A university is established and
maintained for the education of young
men. Athletics were introduced for
exercise and diversion, and yet it
often happens in these latter days
that athletic and social clubs con-
sume so much of the time and
thought of the students that they bring
only the fag end of their time and
initiative to their studies. The pub-
lic and the press is partially responsi-
ble for this state of affairs, for they
make heroes of successful punters
and take little interest in the victories
of men who win in debate and attain
proficiency in the laboratory or in
essay writing. Once, referring to the
dominance of clubs and societies and
athletics in college life Woodrow Wil-
son said to some Princeton trustees:
"I will not be president of a country
club."

The victory of the Chapel Hill boys
over Pennsylvania in debate will
cheer more thoughtful and settled
North Carolinians than would a vic-
tory on the gridiron. It shows that
they are making scholars and think-
ers who can speak at the University,
and that's what the University is set
to do. Every college graduate should
be able to clearly and entertainingly
express his views in public, and the

college or university that does this is
doing a service for its students that
all the athletics never can do, im-
portant as physical training is known
to be.

It is better to educate the head
than the heels.

TAFT AND WICK'S DILEMMA.

The occasional reader of Puck re-
gards it simply as a bright and well
illustrated journal to cause men to
smile at its happy jests and original
pictures. It is that all right, but it
is more. Puck is an able weekly and
upon public topics generally rings
clear. It has done much to expose
the dishonesty of protection in its
sentient editorials, as well as in its
illuminating cartoons and its happy
dialogues which hit the bull's-eye. In
the last issue is the following dialogue
that faithfully delineates the attitude
of Taft and Wickersham to the trusts,
and it is so good it is printed here
in full:

A BILLY DIALOGUE.

Taft.—Good-morrow, Wickersham!
Have you found a solution?
Wick.—Nothing definite. But
there's one thing sure: We can't go
back to competition.
Taft.—We must.
Wick.—But we can't. Morgan is
right. We can't unscramble eggs.
Taft.—Well, something must be
done.
Wick.—Yes, something must be
done. The mob is clamoring for—
Taft.—S-sh!
Wick.—Beg pardon—the people.
The people are clamoring for relief.
Taft.—I know it, and the election
approaches apace.
Wick.—Aye, even faster than that,
Billy.

Taft.—Do you think it would do
any good if I made some more
speeches?

Wick.—Without intending any dis-
respect, good chief, I hardly think it
would.

Taft.—It is a pretty mess! What
are the possible courses?

Wick.—To make a great stirring
around and beating of the bushes as
if we were going to crush the Trusts
with one mighty blow of the stuffed
club.

Taft.—That would satisfy the
Trusts, but not the people. We have
already been at that too long. The
people have become too sophisticated
for much more of that! What else?

Wick.—We could ignore the Trust
question, and talk about Conserva-
tion or Interstate Commerce or some
other side-issue.

Taft.—No, that won't do. We must
do something about the Trusts. What
else do you think of?

Wick.—We might acquire them by
purchase or condemnation.

Taft.—Horror! That is Social-
ism.

Wick.—I know it, but you must re-
member that Socialism is becoming
very strong.

Taft.—Yes, I know. That's what
worries me, but we can make no con-
cessions. As I see it, the only way
is to enforce the Sherman Law.

Wick.—To the letter?

Taft.—No. According to the inter-
pretation of the Supreme Court. That
helps some. We surely must enforce
the laws. That's what we were elect-
ed for, and we need not apologize
for it. Even the Trusts cannot
blame us for that.

Wick.—Can't they, though? They
can't, but they will.

Taft.—Perhaps you're right. Yes,
perhaps you're right. It's a knotty
problem.

Wick.—How about repealing the
Sherman Law?

Taft.—I've thought about that, but
I don't see what we would gain by
it. It wouldn't solve the Trust ques-
tion. On the contrary, we might be
in a worse position than we are now.
I admit the Sherman Law is no good,
but if we repealed it we might have
to pass a good one.

Wick.—Yes, that's true. And the
Trusts simply wouldn't agree to a
good one.

Taft.—No. They won't agree to
anything but dividends. Dear, dear,
sometimes I think we have an im-
possible task before us!

Wick.—What do you mean by
that?

Taft.—I mean that it is next to
impossible to find a solution of the
Trust question which will please both
the Trusts and the people at one
and the same time.

Wick.—I'm half inclined to agree
with you. But come, chief, be of
good cheer! Never give up the ship!
If you only can secure a re-election,
the whole matter can be played with
for four years more, leaving the hard
work for your successor.

Taft.—No. I don't believe we can
procrastinate that much longer.
Something must be done, and quickly.

Wick.—I guess you're right. Some-
thing must be done.

Taft.—What shall it be?

Wick.—That's the question. What
shall it be?

ELLIS O. JONES.

MOVING DAY WITH THE TRUSTS.

The trusts are dissolving—so they
tell us. The day of competition in
tobacco and oil is dawning—so the
trust magnates and employers tell us.
The dissolutions so far have been, as
Attorney-General Bickett predicted,
nothing except such as happens when
the hand divides into the fingers.

The staid and conservative Boston
Transcript has the best description of
the dissolution of the trusts that has
appeared, giving evidence of an inti-
mate knowledge with former methods
and glowing with sympathy for the
various officers who are forced to the
necessity of separating and living
apart after all these long years of
residence in New York. The Tran-
script's editorial is as follows:

"Moving Day With the Trusts."

"The Standard Oil Company, pro-
nounced legally dead, declines to re-
main so. Anyhow, its soul goes
marching on, just as everybody ex-
pected. That mingled odor of pe-
troleum (unrefined) and tobacco
smoke wafted in on the breezy South-
west is from the offices of the two
great, busted trusts. It is moving
day with them. What! have the
mortgages been foreclosed by the
wicked squire? Is the hard-hearted
landlord moving them out on the
curb for the rent? Well, for destitute
(and please notice), deeply religious
old gentlemen of high finance they
are suffering eviction with about as
few of the humiliations of abject
poverty as hosts of loving friends and
generous stockholders can devise. A
special train for St. Louis leaves New
York with a detachment from the
auditing department. Here is a
breaking of home ties to put a choke
in the throat of an all-pitying public.
Learn also the insupportable plight
of Mr. W. W. Fuller, since 1893 chief
counsel in the legal department of the
tobacco company. He has resigned
because he has accumu-
lated a large fortune, and no longer
cares to hold a position against which
public criticism might be directed.
But let Mr. Fuller endow an Anti-
Cigarette League and, while stilling
the promptings of his own conscience,
he will satisfy the clamors of public
morality, without impairing the busi-
ness which lent him his funds—so
slow are we, the people, to catch on.
More pitiable still is the fate of an-
other of the directors, a vice-presi-
dent, too, Mr. W. R. Harris. He has
"concluded to resign. He goes to
London." Why not Paris?

"But now receive instruction. 'About
250 stenographers and clerks will be
dropped from the New York office on
January 1.' You see, it is just as
Chairman Gary, of the Steel Com-
pany told you it would be when last
month they got after his company.
If the United States treats us un-
kindly it is not we who suffer; no,
alas! gladly would we bear all. But
it is the innocent stockholders; it is
the weak and tender employees, whom
we are under the painful necessity of
'letting go' or cutting in salary."

"Meanwhile the Standard Oil Com-
pany is reorganizing; it is putting
up partitions between the desks of
vice-presidents. Already these changes
have caused intense suffering among
the poorer directors. One secretary
has to go downstairs whenever he
needs a drink of ice water. Another
will be obliged to live in Denver. It
is said that his parting with the other
vice-presidents before starting on his
special train on the perilous journey
affected the bystanders to tears.
Others must 'go all the way to Cali-
fornia.' When it is remembered that
this is a week's journey from Broad-
way the hideousness of this doom will
dawn on the average mind. Every-
thing has been done to make this
fate as tolerable as possible. Villas
in orange groves will receive the
exiles; they will ride in six-cylinder
cars and be entertained at dinner by
members of the Metropolitan opera
company; but this is small solace for
living so far away from the world.

"One utterance alone is dark. 'In-
side the building, however, there will
be many shifts and resortings.' Does
this refer to the well-known business
methods of the Standard Oil Com-
pany or to that system of secret ele-
vator shafts at the rear of the build-
ing at 26 Broadway which, by popu-
lar report, communicated with wait-
ing motor cars and a yacht in the
harbor with steam up ready to put
to sea in case the Government ever
actually 'got wise?' And what, pray,
can the Middle West and the Pacific
offer as the equivalent, either in
aeroplane, cyclone cellar or sub-
marines lurking off the coast of St.
Louis ready to dive?"

Mr. Wickersham wrongs the South
by saying officially that peonage "is
quite extensively carried on in some
of the Southern States." There are
more women held in slavery in Mr.
Wickersham's own city than in all the
South. No public officer has a right
to slander a whole section in an of-
ficial report.

The cotton picker must come along
if the South is to increase its cotton
crop. It is now raising more cotton
than it can pick. The Smithfield
Herald says Mr. John C. Ennis is offer-
ing to give one half of the seed cotton
to pickers, and cannot get help.